

- |                                      | No. of Net, &c. |              |  |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|--|
| 5j.                                  | Nov. 21.        | 1510 fath.   | <i>Conchæcia hyalophyllum</i> , Claus. Many.<br><i>Conchæcia imbricata</i> , Brady. Several.<br><i>Conchæcia spinirostris</i> , Claus. Several.            |
| 5k.                                  | "               | 1610 fath.   | <i>Conchæcia hyalophyllum</i> , Claus. Many.<br><i>Conchæcissa cucullata</i> , Brady. 1.<br><i>Microconchæcia Clausii</i> , var. <i>similis</i> ? Several. |
| 5l.                                  | "               | 1710 fath.   | <i>Conchæcia imbricata</i> , Brady. 3.<br><i>Conchæcia porrecta</i> , Claus. Several.  |
| Lat. 52° 20' N.<br>Long. 15° 7' 9 W. |                 |              |  |
| 6a.                                  | Nov. 22.        | 150 fathoms. | <i>Conchæcia magna</i> , Claus. Many.<br><i>Conchæcia spinirostris</i> , Claus. Several.   |
| 6b.                                  | "               | 230 fath.    | <i>Asterope</i> ? sp. 1.<br><i>Conchæcia</i> ? sp. 1.  |
| 6c.                                  | "               | 310 fath.    | (Immature forms.)  |
| 6d.                                  | "               | 375 fath.    | (Mostly immature and indeterminable.)  |
| 6f.                                  | "               | 510 fath.    | <i>Conchæcia hyalophyllum</i> , Claus. Many.<br><i>Conchæcia imbricata</i> , Brady. Several.<br><i>Conchæcilla lacerta</i> , B. & N. 1.                    |
| 6g.                                  | "               | 560 fath.    | <i>Conchæcia hyalophyllum</i> , Claus. Several.<br><i>Conchæcia imbricata</i> , Brady. Several.<br><i>Conchæcilla lacerta</i> , B. & N. 1.                 |

XXX.—*New African Mammalia of the Genera Petrodromus, Dendromys, Mus, and Lepus.* By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

I.—PETRODROMUS.

Among some further mammals presented to the National Museum by Commissioner Sir Alfred Sharpe, K.C.M.G., are some examples of a *Petrodromus* which, on comparison with the ordinary S. Nyasan *P. tetradactylus*, proves to be distinct. It may be called

*Petrodromus venustus*, sp. n.

Essential characters of size, skull, and structure of caudal hairs as in *P. tetradactylus*, but coloration different in several respects. Median dorsal area for a breadth of about  $1\frac{1}{4}$ – $1\frac{1}{2}$

inches clear pinkish buff, with a slightly vinaceous tone, the rump not becoming markedly more plumbeous; sides bright buff; under surface white, not soiled or buffy white, though the bases of the hairs are slaty. Face-markings as in *P. tetradactylus*, but the cheeks more buffy. Limbs coloured as in *tetradactylus*, though the light parts are rather whiter. Tail rather more abundantly haired; black above, all round for its terminal half and along a narrow median line below from its basal fourth; sides of its basal half dull buffy.

Skull apparently quite as in *P. tetradactylus*.

Dimensions of the type (measured in the flesh):—

Head and body 210 millim.; tail 132; hind foot (s. u.) 52; ear 29.

Skull: greatest length 53·5; greatest breadth 27.

*Hab.* North Nyasa. *Type* from Namwiwe.

*Type.* Female. B.M. no. 3. 4. 2. 4. Collected September, 1902, by Mr. McClounie, and presented by Sir Alfred Sharpe, K.C.M.G.

This pretty species differs from *P. tetradactylus* by its paler clearer colour, not darkening on the rump, its clear buffy sides, its dead white belly, and the fine black line which runs up the underside of the tail.

## II.—DENDROMYS.

### *Dendromys messorius*, sp. n.

A small species, without a dorsal stripe.

Size comparatively small. Fur close and velvety, not so long and soft as in certain other species; hairs of back about 4–5 millim. in length. Upper surface dull uniform fulvous (Ridgway's "cinnamon" with a leaning towards "clay-colour"); the back quite without any trace of a dark dorsal streak; sides lighter and more rufous. Under surface white, not very sharply defined laterally; the hairs white to their roots; a slight yellowish or fulvous suffusion in the white of the chest and inner side of hind limbs. Ears of medium size, well haired, dull fulvous brown, not markedly darker than the general body-colour. Limbs like back externally, like belly internally; upperside of hands and feet dull whitish. Tail more thinly haired than usual, brown above, rather lighter below.

Skull stoutly built in comparison with that of some of the larger species; supraorbital edges square; palatal foramina not conspicuously long; molars small and narrow.

Dimensions of type (measured in the flesh):—

Head and body 70 millim.; tail 82; hind foot (s. u.) 18; ear 12.

Skull: greatest length 21; basilar length 14·8; greatest breadth 11; nasals, length 7·6; interorbital breadth 3; palate length 8·7; diastema 5; palatal foramina 3·8; length of upper molar series 3·1, of  $m^1$  1·6.

*Hab.* Efulen, Bulu Country, Cameroons. Alt. 500 m.

*Type.* Female. B.M. no. 3. 2. 4. 24; original number 93. Collected 29th July, 1901, by Mr. G. L. Bates. Eight specimens.

The only other West-African *Dendromys*, *D. Pecilei*, M.-Edw., has a dark dorsal stripe, grey-based belly-hairs, and molars which, if their dimensions are correctly given\*, are proportionally larger than in any other species of the genus.

*Dendromys insignis*, sp. n.

A large species, with a broad dorsal stripe.

Size large. General colour above slightly more buffy than Ridgway's "raw umber"; sides clearer buffy, passing without line of demarcation into the dull creamy buff of the under surface, where the hairs are slaty grey for three fourths their length. No stripe on head, though the centre of the crown is very faintly darker. Dorsal stripe commencing at withers, very broad (over 4 millim.), black, and conspicuous. Ears large, brown. Limbs dull buffy on outer surface, whitish buffy on inner; hands and feet white. Tail long, well haired, brown above, white below.

Skull large, light, and papery; muzzle long; interorbital space narrow, smooth, and rounded; palatal foramina long.

Dimensions of the type (measured in skin):—

Head and body 83 millim.; tail 104; hind foot (s. u.) 21·5; ear "15."

Skull: greatest length 24; basilar length 17·8; greatest breadth 12; length of nasals 9·1; interorbital breadth 3·2; diastema 6·4; palatal foramina 5·2; length of  $m^1$  2·2; length of lower molar series (the upper imperfect) 3·5.

*Hab.* Nandi, British East Africa. Alt. 2000 m.

*Type.* Male. B.M. no. 99. 8. 4. 65. Original number 8. Collected 2nd May, 1898, and presented by F. J. Jackson, Esq. One specimen.

"Lives in old birds' nests" (*F. J. J.*).

This fine tree-mouse, which adds one more to the many East-African mammals discovered by Mr. F. J. Jackson, is one of the *D. mesomelas* group, and is readily distinguishable

\* Skull 21 millim.; upper molar series 4;  $m^1$  2·5 (Pousargues, Ann. Sci. Nat., Zool. iii. p. 386, 1896).

by its broad and conspicuous dorsal stripe. Its nearest geographical ally (*D. nigrifrons*, True, from Kilimanjaro) is characterized by having a well-marked coronal stripe in addition, besides being much smaller.

### III.—THE SUBSPECIES OF *MUS HYPOXANTHUS*, PUCH.

The British Museum now possesses a good series from the Gaboon and Cameroons of the handsome rat described by Pucheran as *Mus hypoxanthus*. Compared with these, examples from Unyoro (*Ansorge*) and Nandi (*Jackson*) indicate the existence of two well-defined subspecies of that animal.

The three may be briefly distinguished as follows:—

General colour dark ("sepia"), the rump dark rufous. Belly more or less washed with buffy .....	<i>Mus hypoxanthus</i> .
General colour above as in <i>hypoxanthus</i> , but the belly pure sharply defined white ..	<i>Mus h. bacchante</i> , subsp. n.
General colour above pale (between "tawny olive" and "clay-colour"), the rump bright rufous. Belly edged laterally with buffy .....	<i>Mus h. unyori</i> , subsp. n.

#### *Mus hypoxanthus bacchante*.

Size and general characters of true *hypoxanthus*. Colour above dark, nearly approaching Ridgway's "sepia" or "olive." Rump more rufous, but less conspicuously so than in the other forms, and only for a comparatively small area. Sides greyish olive. Whole of under surface from chin to anus and inner sides of limbs pure sharply defined white, not edged laterally with buffy. Rufous nose-spot small, confined to the roots of the whiskers and not extending back to the eye. Fine hairs of ears rufous; no postauricular patch. Upper surface of hands brown, of feet rufous brown, but not so rufous as in true *hypoxanthus*. Tail almost naked, finely scaled, blackish above, rather paler below.

Skull very like that of true *hypoxanthus*, but rather smaller, with narrower and more parallel-sided interorbital region, more projecting anteorbital plate, palate ending level with hinder edge of  $m^3$ , with larger bullæ, and rather smaller molars.

Dimensions of the type (measured on the skin):—

Head and body 159 millim.; tail 170; hind foot (s. u.) 30; ear 21.

Skull: greatest length 38; basilar length 31.5; greatest breadth 18.7; nasal length 15; interorbital breadth 5.2;

palate length 17·5; diastema 10·5; palatal foramina 7·8; length of upper molar series 6·7.

*Hab.* Nandi, British East Africa. Altitude 2000 m.

*Type.* Male. B.M. no. 99. 8. 4. 66. Collected 22nd April, 1898, and presented by F. J. Jackson, Esq.

*Mus hypoxanthus unyori.*

Size and proportions as in the other two forms. General colour above pale (between "tawny olive" and "clay-colour"), coarsely lined with dark brown. Posterior back for nearly one third of the body bright tawny rufous. Under surface dull white on throat and chest; belly mesially white, edged with buffy laterally, or washed with buffy all over. Red nose-spot prolonged backward to surround eyes. Ears brown or rufous brown, a distinct fulvous postauricular patch. Forearms and wrists bright rufous; upperside of hands greyish or sandy. Outer side of hind limbs rich rufous like rump, the upperside of the feet also fulvous or reddish. Tail nearly naked; scales about 11 to the centimetre; blackish above, rather paler below.

Skull agreeing closely with that of *M. h. bacchante*, but rather narrower and more delicately built.

Dimensions of the type (measured in the flesh):—

Head and body 155 millim.; tail 185; hind foot (s. u.) 31; ear 20.

Skull: greatest length 37; basilar length 30; nasals, length 14·3; interorbital breadth 4·9; palate length 16·5; palatal foramina 7·1; length of upper molar series 6·9.

*Hab.* Fadjas, on Victoria Nile, Unyoro.

*Type.* Male. B.M. no. 2. 11. 1. 28. Collected 18th July, 1897, by Dr. W. J. Ansorge. Six specimens.

"Tree-rat" (*W. J. A.*).

IV.—THE COMMON HARE OF CENTRAL CAPE COLONY.

Among the fine collection of mammals from Deelfontein collected during the war by C. H. B. Grant, and presented to the National Museum by Col. A. T. Sloggett, there occurred a good series of the local representative of *Lepus capensis*. As no typical Cape material was available for comparison, opportunity was taken for Mr. Grant to obtain a Cape hare from near Capetown itself during a collecting-trip arranged by Mr. C. D. Rudd.

This Cape specimen, in conjunction with the others in the Museum, shows, as might well be expected from the difference

in altitude, that the Deelfontein hare is sufficiently distinct from the Cape one to need subspecific distinction.

It may be called

*Lepus capensis centralis*, subsp. n.

Size and proportions of true *Lepus capensis*.

General colour strongly suffused with pinkish buff, instead of being nearly pure grey. Sides more strongly rufous and lateral parts of under surface very strongly washed with reddish vinaceous, as are also the throat and chest. Nape "vinaceous buff," instead of dull grey; ear-fringes more buffy; chin, throat, and limbs all more strongly rufous.

Dimensions of the type (measured in the flesh):—

Head and body 440 millim.; tail 94; hind foot (s. u.) 110; ear 122.

Skull: greatest length 84.5; basilar length 67.

*Hab.* Deelfontein, Cape Colony. Alt. 1400 m.

*Type.* Female. B.M. no. 2. 9. 1. 100. Original number 165. Collected 12th March, 1902, by C. H. B. Grant, and presented by Col. A. T. Sloggett.

The true Cape hare is a much greyer animal than *L. c. centralis*, with the rufous tones less developed throughout, the difference being especially marked on the nape and throat. On the nape, indeed, the colour is simply grey without any rufous or buffy suffusion at all.

Of other names that have been given to members of this group none seem to apply to the Deelfontein hare. *L. arenarius*, Geoff., has clearly no relationship to it and was said to have come from Natal. *L. ochropus*, Wagn., is the Transvaal species, which was obtained by Capt. Barrett-Hamilton at Bloemhoff, Vredefort Road, and elsewhere, and is readily distinguishable by its much yellower general colour and clear yellow nape.

XXXI.—On a Collection of Fishes from the Azores.

By C. TATE REGAN, B.A.

THE collection of fishes brought back from the Azores by Mr. W. R. Ogilvie Grant, who obtained them through the kind co-operation of Major F. A. Chaves, of the Ponta Delgada Museum, is of interest as showing the great similarity which exists between the fish-fauna of the shores of these islands and that of Madeira and of the Mediterranean, and also as